

**INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE LECTURES—Volume XVI**  
—The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons—Editor, Fred C. Reynolds, M.D., St. Louis, Missouri. The C. V. Mosby Co., 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis 3, Missouri, 1959. 334 pages, illustrated, \$16.00.

The perennial classic again brings to the reader excerpts from the 1959 instructional course lectures of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Although, for practical purposes, all the lectures could not be given, those selected were excellent in content, thorough, and of timely interest.

The first section, a symposium on athletic injuries, ignores the various methods of treatment which have been known and well documented. Emphasis wisely is on diagnosis and on prevention of injuries, both by prophylactic exercise programs and the fitting of the athlete to the sport. Both factors are described in excellent fashion and with numerous tables and sketches for illustration. This symposium alone makes this volume a valuable adjunct to all who see and treat athletes.

The course on the anatomy of the hand and its injuries provides an excellent review, particularly to those who may infrequently need an easily read and short essay on this subject.

A new concept on the pathogenesis of Dupuytren's contracture is offered by Dr. Luck. By dividing the disease into three stages, specific treatment for each stage may be offered. Dr. Luck's large series and results are impressive and worthy of study to all students of the hand.

Dr. Riordan, in one review, brings together the classical procedures for treating of the paralytic hand. In addition, a new technique is offered. This again is a must to all who are exposed to this problem.

The review of the congenital club foot by Dr. McCauley summarizes past developments in this often difficult field. A new concept in medical release is offered, which in detail describes the rather massive release with appropriate and lucid descriptions of pitfalls and their avoidance. Complementing the latter is the procedure by Heyman, et al., on surgical correction of resistant metatarsus varus. The procedure and example are well illustrated and the results impressive.

A most needed contribution is offered by Dr. Heyman, et al., on the subject of congenital convex pes valgus, or the so-called vertical talus. This problem, more common than suspected, is a most difficult one to treat, since conservative measures have consistently failed. The English literature has been sorely lacking in discussion and treatment, and this needed article brings together diagnosis and surgical treatment, with an extensive series to support it.

Dr. Crice reports further on his subtalar arthrodesis. In addition, this article gives a good review of valgus deformities regardless of cause.

In the symposium on knee injuries, and in addition to a review of this problem, Dr. Kaplan's views on the etiology and pathogenesis of discoid menisci deserve this wider distribution and will no doubt upset many a cherished tradition.

In the symposium on the spine, the pressing problem, both medical and economic, of the industrial back is succinctly presented. A sobering thesis, with overtones in many directions in this day of paternal government, is the flat assertion of the relationship of disability and compensation. This essay would be illuminating to many outside of the medical profession.

Dr. Schmidt ably brings his vast experience and knowledge of the treatment of the scoliotic spine in an essay which again should be required reading of all who must care for this problem.

The large series of Young and Love of the Mayo Clinic, comparing excision of the disc with discectomy and fusion,

brings this problem again to scrutiny. Their impression of the superiority of the combined procedures appears to be tipping the pendulum away from the swing of discectomy alone.

C. W. Goff reviews the methods of estimating growth of extremities in treatment of unequal extremities. Of interest is the success of some of the less "scientific" method. Electromyography is presented less as a review and more as a diagnostic tool for orthopedists, who have been slow to use this definitive method of diagnosis in puzzling problems. Of particular note is its value in differentiating primary myopathies from lower motor neuron lesions.

The ever-present divergence of views on the uses of hip prostheses are again raised in the last symposium. It appears that all views are staunchly defended. The reader will most probably find a defense of his own views here and will not be persuaded to change them.

As is true each year, this volume deserves its place on the active shelf of the orthopedist's library. It will also serve ancillary branches of medicine whose interests overlap in any of the described symposia.

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**MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MEDICINE**—Benjamin Lee Gordon, M.D., F.I.C.S. Philosophical Library, 15 East 40th Street, New York 16, N. Y., 1959. 843 pages, \$10.00.

This thick book (some 800 pages), dealing in a general way with medieval and Renaissance medicine, makes remarkably good and instructive reading. After a few introductory chapters to set the stage, the plan of each chapter is to develop a topic in general and to conclude with a series of sketches of individual physicians. Thus the volume is useful as a general history as well as a reference book to particular physicians; it is well documented with references to each chapter. There are an index and numerous illustrations. It is a book which every doctor will find useful and every medical student should read.

ARTHUR L. BLOOMFIELD, M.D.

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**RADIOLOGIC EXAMINATION OF THE SMALL INTESTINE**—2nd Edition—Ross Golden, M.D., Visiting Professor of Radiology, University of California at Los Angeles; Professor Emeritus of Radiology, Columbia University; formerly, Director of Radiology, The Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1959. 560 pages, \$28.50.

This monograph is divided into 29 chapters which contain material based largely on the author's extensive experience at the Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. The sections on anatomy, embryology and physiology are commendable and should be of use to radiologists and other clinicians. The sections on the normal small intestine, especially that of the infant, are useful but not as thorough as in Caffey's textbook. The succeeding chapters deal with many diverse disorders, the conclusions in some of them being based apparently on the examination of less than half a dozen cases. The differential diagnostic features suffer understandably from the fact that there is no marked specificity to the roentgen findings in many of the different small bowel conditions discussed.

The chapters on peritoneal adhesions and intestinal ileus are useful, but perhaps more thoroughly covered in Frimann-Dahl's monograph.

Amongst the conditions discussed with ability and adequate illustrations are regional enteritis, parasitic infections and neoplasms.

The format of the book is pleasing; the illustrations are of good quality and the references and index adequate.